

**I. Listing of Claims**

1. Cancelled.

2. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[1]] 3 wherein the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are separate segments of a single elongate flexible element.

3. (Previously Presented) A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain, wherein the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are attached to the inflatable curtain at a common point, the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension of the inflatable curtain.

4. Cancelled.

5. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[1]] 3 wherein the slide member is in the form of a rigid ring.

6. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[1]] 3 wherein at least one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element is elastic.

7. (Previously Presented) The safety device according to Claim 6 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are elastic.

8. (Previously Presented) The safety device according to Claim 5 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are substantially inextensible.

9. (Previously Presented) A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain at a first point of attachment, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached to and extending from the inflatable curtain at a second point of attachment, wherein one of the first or the second points of attachment is in the form of an elastic connection, the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain.

10. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[1]] 3 wherein the at-least-one common point of attachment between the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element and the inflatable curtain is in the form of an elastic connection.

11. Cancelled.

12. Cancelled.

13. Cancelled.

14. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[13]] 15 wherein the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are separate segments of a single elongate flexible element.

15. (Previously Presented) A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain, a second portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain and having a second end attached to the motor vehicle, wherein the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are attached to the inflatable curtain at a common point near the lower edge, a second end of the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby,

upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the lower edge moves downwardly from the upper edge causing the second portion of elongate flexible element to slide through the slide member and the first and second portions of elongate flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain.

16. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[13]] 15 wherein the slide member is in the form of a rigid ring.

17. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[13]] 15 wherein at least one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element is elastic.

18. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[13]] 15 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are elastic.

19. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim [[13]] 15 wherein both of the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element are substantially inextensible.

20. (Previously Presented) A safety device for a motor vehicle comprising an inflatable curtain having an upper edge and a lower edge, the upper edge being adapted to be mounted to the motor vehicle within the interior of the motor vehicle, a first portion of elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain at a first point of attachment near the lower edge, a second portion of

elongate flexible element being attached at one end to the inflatable curtain at a second point of attachment near the lower edge and having a second end attached to the motor vehicle, wherein one of the first or the second points of attachment is in the form of an elastic connection, a second end of the first portion of elongate flexible element incorporating a slide member adapted to slidably retain a length of the second portion of elongate flexible element whereby, upon deployment of the inflatable curtain, the lower edge moves downwardly from the upper edge causing the second portion to slide through the slide member and the first and second portions of flexible element are placed in tension, which exerts tension on the inflatable curtain.

21. (Currently Amended) The safety device according to Claim ~~[[13]]~~ 15 wherein the ~~at least one~~ common point of attachment between the first and the second portions of elongate flexible element and the inflatable curtain is in the form of an elastic connection.

22. Cancelled.

23. Cancelled.

24. (New) The safety device according to Claim 9 wherein the slide member is in the form of a rigid ring.

25. (New) The safety device according to Claim 9 wherein at least one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element is elastic.

26. (New) The safety device according to Claim 20 wherein the slide member is in the form of a rigid ring.

27. (New) The safety device according to Claim 20 wherein at least one of the first or the second portions of elongate flexible element is elastic.